



JIB Cable Agreement –Note of Guidance

The current clause to which this guidance relates is Section 1.5(f) of the Cable Agreement which reads as follows:

- (f) Notwithstanding the full range of cabling work that may be undertaken by Skilled Electrical Operatives (with or without the assistance of any other graded operatives in accordance with Note 2), Skilled Cabling Operatives are authorised for the installation and running on auxiliary routes of single cables (with or without the assistance of any other graded operatives in accordance with Note 2) when:*
- (i) The diameter of the cables being installed is greater than 10mm where these cables are banked (bunched) in groups exceeding 20mm in diameter for 70% of the cable length **and** the total length of the cables being installed is 5,000m or greater on the contract;*
 - (ii) The diameter of the cables being installed is 10mm or less where these cables are banked (bunched) in groups exceeding 20mm in diameter for 70% of the cable length **and** the total length of the cables being installed is 10,000m or greater on the contract.*

In the situations set out in Section 1.5(f)(i) and (ii), it would be permitted for Skilled Cabling Operatives to undertake installation and running on auxiliary routes of single cable where there is a minimum of 70% of the total running length with other cables (and conversely a maximum of 30% of the cable length as single cables). As an example, and as per the diagram in Figure 1 below, in a data centre long lengths are run together, and small lengths are run on their own. For clarity, the sections above apply to cables of the same type which are banked in groups.

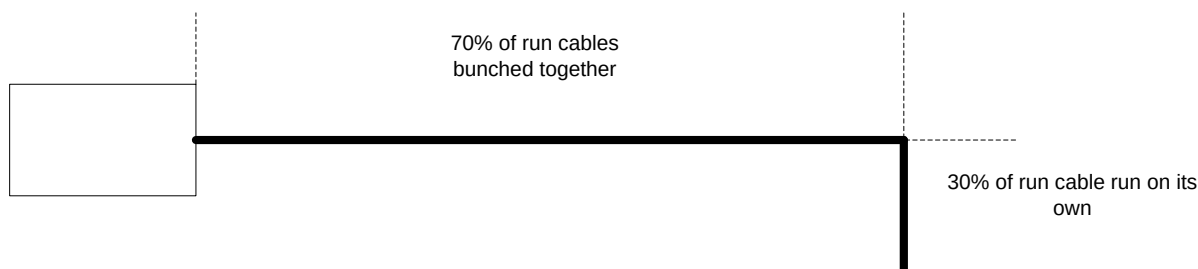


Figure 1: Example of a permitted scenario where Skilled Cabling Operatives could undertake installation and running on auxiliary routes of single cables.

Where less than 70% of the run is bunched with other cables, and more than 30% of the length is run as single cables, and where this cable is under 20mm diameter, this work will be undertaken by Skilled Electrical Operatives, with or without the assistance of other graded operatives. An example would be a fire alarm panel where all cables leave the panel, are run together for a short length and then split off, with the majority of the length being single cables.

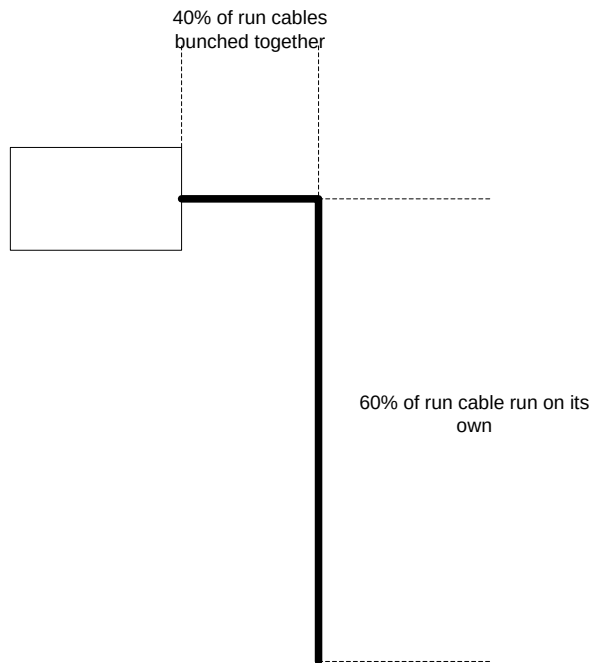


Figure 2: Example of a scenario where Skilled Electrical Operatives (but not Skilled Cabling Operatives) would be authorised to undertake installation and running on auxiliary routes of single cables.

The total cable lengths and diameters as set out in the draft Cable Agreement under Section 1.5(f)(i) and (ii) should be read in conjunction with the above guidance.

The term contract in 1.5(f)(i) and (ii) above includes a succession of contracts where one contractor is provided with multiple, smaller contracts on a site that cumulatively would pass the thresholds of 5,000m or 10,000m.

Pair Working

Pair working is an historic term defined as a situation when *“Skilled operatives (were) assisted by mates and/or apprentices in the ratio of one to one”* or when *“for reasons of quantity or weight, additional labour is required, when it may be on a one-to-three basis, but in such cases not more than one apprentice to be employed to two adult mates”*.

The provision to encourage the role of the adult mate (which has not existed since 1968) conflicts with the objectives of the JIB to promote and fully support professional standards of training, encourage apprenticeships and develop career pathways for the current and future generations and was removed from the JIB Agreement for these reasons.

Pair Working also prevented companies from achieving productive output by requiring each skilled electrical operative to be accompanied by an adult mate. This is not something which would necessarily be the most efficient means of completing a job. The reference to Pair Working has been removed from the Electrical Labourer grading definition